https://gsrlhs.home.blog/rlhs-2/

Volume 5 - November 2025

Editors Note: This volume represents a revival of our Golden Spike Chapter Newsletter after an absence of 5 years. A meeting was held of current members and prospective members November 15, 2025 to decide on the fate of our chapter.

After some discussion is was decided that we should try to keep our chapter alive and refocus our efforts now that our former main reason for existence to restore the D&RGW Narrow Gauge C16 locomotive #223 was halted.

We ceased restoration work following a disagreement with the City of Ogden involving our change in status as viewed by the City and our effort to compromise allowing us to continue our work. This impasse led to the closure of the restoration shop by the City. Thus our determination to refocus our interests elsewhere.

In the meantime, the City of Ogden gained ownership of the 223 from the State of Utah and after receiving input from our chapter and the general public the decision was made by the City to turn the 223 over to a restoration group in Colorado called the 223 Locomotive Foundation. The goal is to restore the 223 to operational status. In general, our chapter supports this decision and we will continue to be interested in the progress of this project.

Golden Spike Chapter meeting Nov. 15, 2025

Chairman Steve Jones convened a meeting of the Golden Spike Chapter board of officers and other interested parties. The meeting began at 11:30 at Ogden's Two Bit Cafe on 25th street. Among the board officers were Steve Jones, Chairman; Richard Carroll, Treasurer/membership; Lee Witten, Secretary; Josh Bernhard Director; absent was John Barrett (ill) and Lee Sechrist (deceased).

Items of discussion:

1-The movement of the 223 to Colorado under control of the 223 Locomotive Foundation. The chapter generally views this as a good thing. The Chapter still owns several parts of the 223 that we built or re-built at our own expense through funds raised and donations of material. This includes the complete tender, reconstruction of the cab, refurbishing of the pilot and air compressors. A motion was made to donate these to the 223 Locomotive Foundation. Motion was approved by unanimous vote. There is not knowledge of a date set for the transfer of the 223 but it will be sometime in 2026. The chapter will not have a say in any ongoing development.

2- The question as to what era would the 223 be restored to. It was built in 1881 and has undergone many modifications and repairs since then. It was decided to restore it to the latest date of service in the late 1930/40 period.

3- The Colorado Railroad Museum wants to control the 223 after restoration but is not interested in the restoration process itself.

4 - At this point Josh Bernhard was given the floor to talk about his involvement in the Western Crossroads Railroad Museum. **utahtrainmuseum.org** The impetus for forming this museum was the acquisition of historical documentations. The museum was organized to preserve these documents for public access by forming an online digital archive. In addition the museum wants to purchase land and construct a modern building to house the archives and historic railroad equipment. Memberships are available through their website
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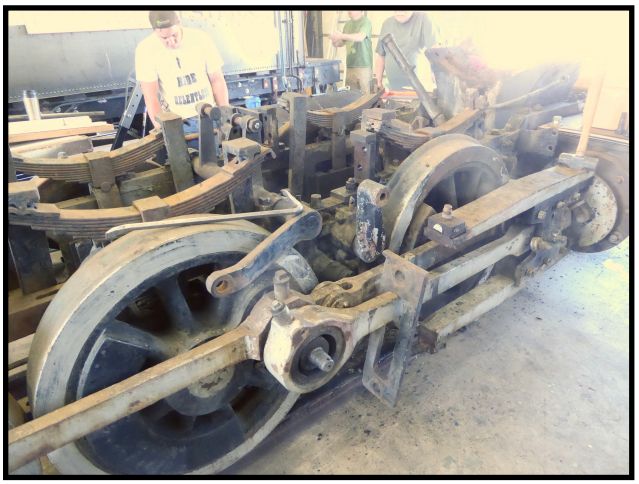
5 - A discussion followed about how the Golden Spike Chapter could support the WCRM as part of our re-focusing our chapter goals.

6 - Steve Jones announced that he will be stepping down from his office as Chapter President due to other obligations. With this he opened the floor to nomination of officers for 2026. The nominees so far are as follows: Josh Bernhard, President; Chance Davis for Vice President; Richard Carroll for Treasurer/membership; Lee Witten for Secretary; Bill Dodge, Scott Pitman and Steve Jones for directors. Nominations will close in December and elections held soon after the holidays.

7- Josh Bernhard will also be taking on the job of maintaining our website. This involves a technical skill thus Steve Jones made a motion to compensate Josh with a membership in the National R&LHS and Chapter dues. Motion approved unanimously.

Arrival In Ogden From SLC Rio Grand Depot 1991

223



RIO GRANDE
ROYAL GORGE
MOFFAT TUNNEL
SCENIC LINE OF THE WORLD
DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN
C-16

223
D&RGW
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